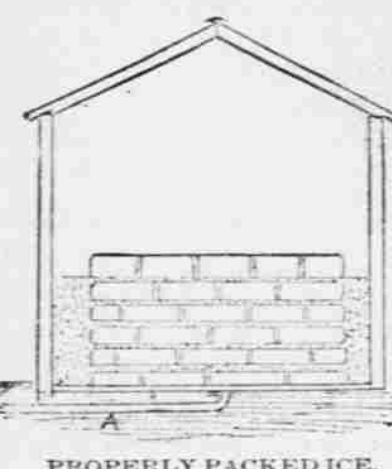


AGRICULTURAL HINTS

FILLING AN ICEHOUSE.

If You Have Never Done It, It Will Pay You To Read This Article Over Carefully.

The sketch shows a cross section of our own ice house, with boards nailed horizontally on the inside of the poles. From 12 to 15 inches should be left between the ice cakes and the walls. Locate the ice house where good, natural drainage may be secured. Tile may be laid, as indicated at A, to secure more adequate drainage if needed. Cut the cakes so as to break joints, say 15x36 inches, or 12x30, as conditions may require. It will be impossible to make the cakes fit together perfectly, no matter how expert the saw manipulator may be. On this account, we put in one layer, fit closely as possible,



PROPERLY PACKED ICE.

sible, then shave over the upper surface of all the cakes with a carpenter's adze. The shavings of ice are swept into the crevices between cakes. When freezing cold, a little water is sprinkled over the whole surface to cement the layer solidly together.

As each layer is completed, the sawdust should be filled in around the sides, level with the top, and solidly tamped down. Allow no sawdust to remain on top of the various layers until the ice house is filled. The cut shows the sixth layer in and ready for the sawdust. Ice is preserved by being packed away from the air. As hot weather comes on the ice will settle some. Be sure to keep the sawdust tamped down around the sides frequently during early summer, and see that no airholes form. When the ice is all packed in, with 10 to 15 inches of sawdust. Leave the gables open more or less to allow free circulation of air over the ice. I hope that this description, with sketch, of our own successful harvesting and storing of ice in a cheap pole-frame ice house, will encourage many farmers to decide to have some ice next season. And may they thoroughly enjoy, for the first time, the cooling benefits which accrue to the fortunate possessors of the congealed fluid.—J. H. Brown, in Rural New Yorker.

THE RABBIT IN TRADE.

Millions of Pounds of Meat and of Skins Exported Annually from Australia to Europe.

Rabbits are small things, but, like microbes and measles, they play havoc with men and things when they get thick and spread over large areas. They literally eat up things. New South Wales, Australia, once had nearly 100,000,000 sheep. That colony now has less than 50,000,000. The droughts of the country have been bad enough, but the rabbits have been the worst pest which ever afflicted the land of the New South Welshman. The area really devastated by bunnies is more than 100,000,000 acres. In one year there have been killed over 26,000,000 rabbits, and their skins paid for by the government under the "rabbit destruction act." Probably twice as many died on the grassless plains, by poison or from starvation or thirst in the open warrens within the fenced-in areas or out upon the bare, broad earth from which they ate every vestige of grass or leaf which fed them and the hapless sheep of the western backblocks along the Darling river and its contiguous territory. London is opening a frozen-rabbit market for the colonies. There were imported into Great Britain last year more than 40,000,000 pounds of frozen rabbits and more than 10,000,000 rabbit skins for fur and spinners. This is some compensation, but not enough for the loss of 50,000,000 sheep in one colony—fully 30,000,000 of the loss being due directly to the devastation of rabbits and the financial wreck of the banks of the country in 1902 when financial institutions closed their doors with liabilities at more than \$40,000,000. The Australian rabbit is becoming the commercial competitor of the Australian sheep, both for the grass on the ranch and for the consumptive market of the frozen meat trade. Australia ships as much of one as the other.—National Provisioner.

WAYS OF THE SHEEP.

In Many Respects the Most Interesting, as Well as the Most Profitable, of Farm Animals.

Innocence shines in a lamb's face, peace and harmlessness live in his intelligent eyes. Quick to discern danger, the sheep is often unwise in his movements to avoid it.

Proud of her offspring, the experienced ewe proves her devotion and maternal affection by keeping it near her side when passing through strange gates.

There is a strange affinity between the sheep and the dog. Although the latter sometimes dines on an innocent lamb, where the dog has been intelligently trained he will evince a most remarkable anxiety for the welfare of his heavy-coated friend. Frequently do they play together for hours without incurring each other's displeasure. To do this the dog must exercise more intelligence than the sheep.—Farmers' Voice.

BEST HOG FOR FARMERS.

It Is the One That Can Be Made to Weigh 250 or 300 Pounds in Nine or Ten Months.

My opinion is that the most profitable hog for the general farmer to raise is a pig that can be made to weigh 250 or 300 pounds as early as possible, say in nine to ten months of age, says a correspondent of the Prairie Farmer. As to breeds, my choice is the Poland-China. The most favorable time for the young pigs to arrive must be determined by circumstances and the conveniences at hand for caring for them. My experience is the earlier the better as I find it difficult to get the same growth on a May pig at nine months as one farrowed in March. I am not prepared to say just why this is so, but one reason undoubtedly is that they are just in time to feed on the young and tender cover and grasses. Where one has not a good warm place for the young pigs and wishes to raise a large number it is probably best and much more convenient to have them farrowed the last of April or May and turn them off at a lighter weight or else keep them through the winter, which takes more care and feed. Another advantage to be gained by early farrow is that if you are an advocate of fall pigs you can wean your pigs at six weeks or two months old and breed your sows again to farrow about September, or if you do not wish to breed for fall litters your sows may be fattened ready for market at that time, when pork is usually a better price than later. This takes them out of the way and gives a better opportunity to care for the young pigs.

The young pigs should be fed liberally with bone and muscle making foods. Oats either ground or whole are an excellent feed for growth. Do not feed corn or other fattening feed until they have made considerable growth, when it is an easy matter to put on fat. If they are pushed too fast in the first place they will only make a lot of fat little chunks. There are several reasons for getting the pigs to market as soon as practicable. It saves feed, as every experienced feeder knows that the first 200 pounds is much cheaper than the next 200 pounds, and the 100 pounds from 300 to 400 is usually quite expensive.

A TALK ABOUT MULES.

Hot weather affects the mule less than the horse.

The usefulness of a mule continues longer than that of a horse. A good, honest business mule is worth, and will command, a good price any day in the week.

A mule is easier "broke" or trained to work than a horse, and is more reliable after initiation.

You hardly ever see a sick mule; he seems practically immune from the diseases which attack horses.

We would rather plow corn with a team of mules than with horses; they break down less corn and turn around quicker.

A mule can endure more hardship than a horse, will pull more in proportion to his size, and will "stay with it" longer.

An energetic mule will make a trip quicker than a horse, though he may not go so fast—the secret of his speed is his uniform gait, steady and persistent.

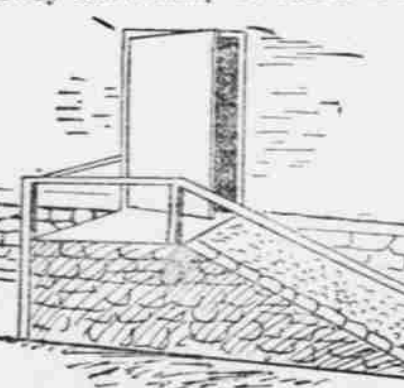
If a team of mules runs away they look out for themselves, and though they may make some close turns and go through a needle's eye, so to speak, they usually come out unhurt.

The mule is not handsome, doesn't make a good roadster, isn't stylish, doesn't "do himself proud" if hitched to a fancy, yellow road wagon or cart, but what he lacks in appearance he makes up in actual usefulness on the farm.—Midland Farmer.

OUTLET FOR CATTLE.

How to Build a Runway from Stables That Have Side Doors High Up from the Ground.

Many stables have side doors high up from the ground that would make the most convenient outlet for cattle. A runway can readily be constructed, as shown in the cut. It can be made less steep than the one shown if desired. Earth is filled inside the rock wall, and firmly trodden down. A loose stone wall only is required—easy to build if flat rocks are at hand. Such a runway may also be built inside the barn to permit cattle to go from the first floor to the basement for water, or other purposes.—Farm Journal.



RUNWAY FROM STABLE.

Quite as Good as Horses. "Zebroids"—that is to say, a hybrid between the zebra and horse—are the subject of a report by the United States minister to Brazil, says a press report. These animals are already in use on a small scale in the Transvaal, and they are suitable for Africa, because the tsetse fly does not injure them. They have been tried successfully in Brazil, and are found very strong, lively and docile. The hybrids take after the female horse, and are black, brown, gray, etc., in color. The best horses for strong hybrids are the Clydesdale, Suffolk and "Percherons" of France. Arab horses give excellent zebroids, very swift and active.

Eggs in the Early Spring. Eggs have brought good prices this winter, and they give more profit in proportion to the cost of the materials entering into their composition than any other animal product on farms. If the stock is large and but few eggs are secured, it may be due either to too much grain, a lack of animal food or to having too many hens for the space occupied. It is a mistake to keep more fowls than can be accommodated, simply to wait for the warm weather of spring for them to begin laying. Cut out all the unprofitable members of the flock.

DEALING WITH CRIMES IN CANADA.

From the Chicago-Times Herald on January 15th, 1901.

"The citizens of the Dominion of Canada have just cause to be proud of their record as law-abiding people. The annual report of the criminal statistics of the Dominion, which is a population of over 6,000,000, shows that there were only twenty-five indictments for murder in 1899, of which only two were left without final action. Eleven of those indicted were hanged, nine acquitted and three confined as insane.

"Canada is a country of vast proportions. Its people are scattered over a wide stretch of territory, making police surveillance particularly difficult and in many districts impossible. Yet a city like New York or Chicago alone furnishes a far greater criminal list every year than the whole vast stretch of territory from Quebec to Vancouver.

"The Canadians ascribe their immunity from crime to the promptness with which punishment is meted out to offenders. When a man is caught red-handed in the act of robbing another he is not released on straw bail by some justice of the peace from the slums, to go out and repeat the offense. Sharp and sure justice is meted out to criminals, the result being that when the guardians of the public peace succeed in bringing a thug to the bar they are seldom called upon to hunt him a second time.

"Furthermore there are few court delays in Canada when a criminal is brought to book. They have no Dreyer cases over there. There are no methods whereby Canadian criminals can have the proceedings stayed from month to month and from year to year or after being convicted, appeal from one court to another until witnesses die of old age or opportunities for corruption can be found.

"Nor does this swift method of treating with wrong-doers in Canada leave the innocent unable to properly defend themselves. They have all the opportunities and privileges that our own laws extend to them. The extent to which the guilty is lacking—that is all."

The above taken from the editorial column of the Times-Herald gives some idea of the immunity from crime that exists in Canada, and this is one of the many inducements held out for Americans to settle in the district known as Western Canada. The season of 1901 will see a few sections of the country opened up for settlement. They are attractive in every respect. It is understood that one of the best Indian Reserves in the famous Valley of the Saskatchewan will be opened up this year, and an invitation is extended to those desiring homes to make inquiries. The price of the land is said to be nominal. Besides these lands, the several railway companies have lands to sell; also the Government. For particulars write to the Agent of the Government, whose advertisement appears elsewhere.

Money in Politics.—"What we need to do, cried I, 'is to take money out of politics.' I said that to a Senator, and he replied, 'I am not a politician, I am a legislator, with convincing candor.—Detroit Journal.

There Is a Class of People Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over 1 cent a cup. Children may drink it with great benefit. It is 25 cents per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

Competition. In spite of the fact that she is not an American heiress, Queen Wilhelmina has succeeded in marrying a duke.—Detroit Free Press.

Hoxley's Croup Cure. The life saver of children, for Croup, Coughs, Colds and Diphtheria. No opium to stupefy. No peevishness to cause nausea. Sold by druggists, or mailed postpaid, on receipt of 50 cents. A. P. Hoxley, Buffalo, N. Y.

Every mother of a singing daughter attributes her success to the fact that the girl was so few appreciative souls.—Atchison Globe.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromine Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure, 25c.

"I hear Miss Flirty threw Cholera over last night. No? She told me she would be discharged this evening."—Town Topics.

A Dose in Time Saves Nine of Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar for Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, and all the Coughs of the Year.

Saving wood is the better exercise, but golf is more popular. Atchison Globe.

The stomach has to work hard, grinding the food he crowd into it. Make it work easy by chewing Beeman's Peppin Gum.

Never mention your own faults; others will attend to it for you. Chicago Daily News.

THE MARKETS.

RYE—No. 1	3 50	5 00
HAY—Clear Time	4 50	12 00
BUTTER—Choice Dairy	10	10 00
BACON—Clear Rib	13	60
Eggs—Fresh	13	60
PORK—Standard Mess (new)	9	10 00
CHICAGO.		
CATTLE—Native Steers	4 75	6 00
HOGS—Fair to Choice	5 00	6 50
SHEEP—Fair to Choice	3 50	5 00
Eggs—Fresh	3 50	5 00
Spring Patents	75	75
WHEAT—No. 1	75	75
OATS—No. 2 Red	74 1/2	75
OATS—No. 2	74 1/2	75
PORK—Mess	13 50	13 50
KANSAS CITY.		
CATTLE—Native Steers	4 50	5 50
HOGS—Fair to Choice	4 75	5 75
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	70 1/2	75
CORN—No. 2	2 60	2 60
NEW ORLEANS.		
Flour—Hog	2 75	4 30
CORN—Horn Grades	2 1/2	3 1/2
OATS—Horn	2 1/2	3 1/2
Choice	18 00	19 00
PORK—Standard Mess	14 00	14 00
Beans—Short Rib	9 1/2	9 1/2
COTTON—Middling	14 00	14 00
LOUISVILLE.		
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	79 1/2	80 1/2
CORN—No. 2	2 1/2	2 1/2
OATS—No. 2	2 1/2	2 1/2
Choice	18 00	19 00
PORK—Standard Mess	14 00	14 00
Beans—Short Rib	9 1/2	9 1/2
COTTON—Middling	14 00	14 00